

I am writing to express my opposition to the "Broadcast Flag"proposal.

Please add me to the list of those who believe this is an pointless attempt to stop piracy which infringes on the lawful use and behavior of law abiding citizens.

I believe in the protection of intellectual property, but as with many of our laws there must a be a balance between the restriction of individual freedoms and the rights of either other individuals or corporations.

This regulation as it has been presented would appear to me to have the effect (desired or not) of criminalizing legal behavior within my own home which is expressly protected by the Digital Millennium Copyright Act as well as other legislation and case-law.

Within my own home and for my own purposes, I should be allowed to capture, store and view any media which I have lawfully purchased in the format of my choice and on the hardware/software of my choice.

The Broadcast industry is free to encrypt, or require special equipment to view content as much as they like to protect their property and I encourage them to do so. However, they cannot control the lawful use of other mediums to do this.

If they do not feel they can transmit their property safely, they should refrain from doing so and seek another means of transmission.

The efficiency of prosecuting those who would steal copyrighted material must take second priority to the rights of those who would not.

Sincerely,

Michael Concannon